urgent in this matter because the fall in the price of copra and coir is standing steady for the past one and a half years?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): If the member would give out what exactly is in his mind, that will be considered.

Fall in Price of Cocoanut and Cocoanut Products.

264. **MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state the causes of the continued fall in the price of the products of the cocoanut tree during the last several months?

(2) Are they aware that there is widespread distress in the country owing to this fall?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (1) The member is referred to the answer given to part (*b*) of question No. 263 by Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai.

(2) The fall in prices has caused some hardship to cocoanut cultivators and merchants.

Sanitation in Changanachery Municipality.

265. **MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI** (*Quilon*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received the reports of the Municipal Council, Changanachery, and the Sanitary Commissioner in regard to the sanitary condition of the Changanachery market?

(2) If the answer to the first part is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to place the reports on the table?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (1) Yes.

(2) Copies of the reports* are placed on the table.

Introduction of Scavenging System in the Changanachery Market.

266. **MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI** (*Quilon*): (1) In regard to the introduction of compulsory scavenging in the Changanachery market, will the Government be pleased to state when the sub-committee was appointed by the Municipal Council, whether the committee has made any report, and, if it has, what action the Municipality has taken on such report?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to lay the sub-committee's report on the table?

(3) If the sub-committee has not made any report, will the Government be pleased to state why it has not?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (1) The sub-committee appointed on 21-5-1101 has recommended the early introduction of the scavenging system in the market area. Steps are being taken by the Council under Section 62 of the Municipal Regulation for its introduction.

* *Vide* Appendices II A and II B—Pages 798—801.

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Appendix I.

Vide Answer to Question No. 261.

Statement of action taken on the representations of Mr. M. K. Abdur Rahiman Kutty at the Twenty-second Session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

112. NEEDS OF THE QUILON TOWN.

(i) Construction of a wooden bridge near the Sri Rama Vilasam Tile Works.	The Municipality has applied to the Government for the bridge being constructed on half the cost as contribution by the Municipality. The matter is under consideration.
(ii) Transfer of public tanks within municipal limits to the Quilon Municipality.	The correspondence with the Municipality has resulted in the latter refusing to take over the tanks for maintenance on the terms offered by the Government.

149. NEEDS OF THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY.

(i) Abolition of Marumakkathayam among Muslims by legislative enactment.	Under consideration by the Government.
(ii) Removal of the Koran from the law courts in the State.	*Vide* answer to part (*b*) of question No. 196.
(iii) Encouragement of the *Unani* system of medicine and grants-in-aid to the *Unani Vaidyasalas* at Trivandrum and Quilon.	A grant-in-aid of Rs. 15 per mensem has been sanctioned to the *Unani Vaidyasala* at Trivandrum.

Appendix II A.

Vide Answer to Question No. 265.

No. 659.

Municipal Office,
Changanachery, 5th July 1926.

From

The President,
Municipal Council, Changanachery.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 839 of 26, dated 27-5-26, regarding the insanitary condition prevailing in the market area as reported among other things by Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai, rate-payer, Vazhapalli, Changanachery, I have the honour to inform you that the Council has taken and is taking every possible means to improve the sanitary condition in the market as can be seen from the following :—

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1. The Sanitary Commissioner, the supreme authority in the matter of sanitation in this State of Travancore, inspected this town, especially the market, towards the close of 1099 and made his report on the subject. First thing he noted in his report is the improvement of market roads by providing drains and repairing the existing ones. The Market, Vazhur and Pandakasala roads, and the market basin are under the maintenance of the P. W. D. and not under Municipal control. The Council has several times written to the authorities concerned for the proper maintenance of the above mentioned roads (*vide* this office letters Nos. 574, dated 19-10-97, 706, dated 5-11-1100, 561, dated 4-5-26 and 581, dated 14-5-1926 addressed to the Sub-Division Officer, Alleppey, Section Officer, Tiruvalla and Canal Officer, Alleppey, respectively). The matter was also brought to the notice of Government (*vide* this office letter No. 632, dated 16th June 1926).

2. The Council is quite aware of the insanitary condition of some of the back-yards of shops and houses in the market area where Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai has gone, rather inspected, and a sum not less than Rs. 1,000 was spent from the Council in 1098 and 1099 towards the improvement of back-yards. The undersigned in 1100 after visiting the back-yards of the shops and houses which are said to have been inspected by Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai, has issued notices to the owners of back-yards of houses in the western market area to keep their places clean. The Council understanding from their representations that not much improvement can be made without proper and common drainage, have appointed a sub-committee to report on the matter.

3. Until drains are properly maintained and provided all round, especially within the market area on the Vazhur road, the drainage from the back-yards of the packed up houses cannot be properly controlled, and hence the present insanitary condition of these back-yards. The Council has also once moved the Government to depute a special P. W. D. officer to prepare a comprehensive plan to regulate the drainage in the town, especially in the market ward. But the matter was dropped since the Council was not in a position to meet the deputation allowance, pay, etc., to the officer (*vide* correspondence ending with that office letter No. D. Dis. 312/23. Rev. L. G., dated 27th July 1923). Since these major roads are under the maintenance of the P. W. D., they have to prepare the comprehensive plan and do the work at their own cost. Without this, the Changanachery market cannot be improved. This Municipality is not also in a position to meet the capital expenditure that may be required for the purpose. The market area is kept clean as far as practicable. This was also noted in the Sanitary Commissioner's report.

4. The practical difficulty in introducing the scavenging system in the market area where it is absolutely necessary is that there are no accesses to the back-yards of several houses. This fact was several times reported to Government. In this connection, it is

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specially to be noted that long before this Municipality was established, the market came into existence. As there was no control then over the construction of buildings, etc., they are not constructed on any sanitary methods fit to the locality. It is not easy to upset all in a few years. Impartial men can understand the improvements made after the institution of a Municipality here from 1088. If there are sufficient funds, the matter can be hurried up. Places have to be acquired, lanes opened, roads for scavengers constructed and so on. The acquisition of places in the market itself will cost much. The Council has also appointed a sub-committee to report regarding steps to be taken for the early introduction of scavenging system.

I have, therefore, the honour to request Government to be good enough (i) to arrange with the P. W. D. to depute an officer to prepare a comprehensive plan to regulate the drainage in the market area and to repair the roads in the market area under their maintenance, providing proper drains, wherever necessary, particularly on the Vazhur road which lies behind the market reported by Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai; (ii) to sanction the levy of tolls on road-traffic, as often requested by the Council so as to meet the unavoidable expenditure to have this town in a pukka sanitary condition; and (iii) to give that consideration which letters of such tone from rate payers deserve.

I have etc.,
(Sd.) *President.*

Appendix II B.

***Vide* Answer to Question No. 265.**

No. 877.

Office of the Sanitary Commissioner,
Trivandrum, 22nd/25th October 1926.

From

The Sanitary Commissioner,
Travancore.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.

Reference :—R. O. C. No. 839/26 L. G., dated 4th October 1926.
Subject :—Insanitary condition of the Municipal market at Changanachery.

Sir,

With reference to the communication noted above, forwarding copies of letters from Mr. K. Paramesvaran Pillai and the President, Municipal Council, Changanachery, regarding the insanitary condition of the market there, I have the honour to enclose for the information of Government an extract from my inspection notes of Changanachery for the year 1099 forwarded to the President of the Municipal Council and to state that it is not really the market that presents the insanitary

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condition complained about by Mr. Changanachery Paramesvaran Pillai, but the area occupied by the hut-like houses situated on the northern and eastern sides of the market. It is not known what action was taken by the Municipality on my suggestions. The only remedy to keep the place clean is to acquire this "slum area" which belongs to the Changanachery Roman Catholic Church. The plot may then be parcelled out and sold to different persons with a condition laid on them that sanitary houses or structures according to plans approved by the Municipal Council should be constructed on them.

The enclosures received are returned as desired.

I have etc.,
JACOB J. CHANDY,
Sanitary Commissioner.

Extract from the Inspection notes of the Ag. Sanitary Commissioner, Travancore, of the Changanachery Municipal town on the 22nd Karkatakam 1099.

Markets.—The vegetable market is supposed to be the biggest in the whole State. It is held between two rows of small ill-ventilated shops on the public road and on either side of the road. The drains on both sides are in utter disrepair and should be attended to as early as possible. This is not an ideal site for a market, but may be allowed to continue. If the Municipality has sufficient funds, a *pukka* market on an up-to-date plan, properly enclosed and with stalls for vegetables, fish, meat, etc., may be built. The fish market is situated in a low, damp, water-clogged place. It is spacious and enclosed. There are no permanent stalls, but only temporary sheds used composing fish-water that has soaked into the ground. The site is good, as stalls. The place was stinking with the odor of dried fish and decomposing fish-water that has soaked into the ground. The site is good, but the ground has to be raised, paved with tiles, stalls built, and drains provided on all sides, so that the whole place can be washed and kept clean. A urinal and a latrine are necessary for this place. The large number of low, ill-ventilated insanitary dwelling houses, situated on the northern and estern sides of this market which may rightly be called the "slum area" may very well be demolished and small neat houses on modern plan, suited to the requirements, built in rows and let to these poor people. If this is not possible, the best thing is to keep the place open. As at present, the place cannot be kept clean and in a sanitary condition and, if epidemics of any sort break out, it will be difficult to control the same. Although bye-laws relating to the sale and exposure of articles of food and drink were brought into force from the beginning of 1099, I should think that they are kept more in the breach than in the observance. I saw eatables exposed on the top of glass cases, in some the glasses broken and flies swarming over food materials, the doors of others kept open, some without shutters, etc. The Municipality should see that all sellers of sweet-meats and other eatables expose them for sale only in glass cases properly made with 3 sides and top of glass and shutters made of wire-gauze. Proper control should be exercised over the quality of water used by aerated water manufactures.

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